



Department of Justice

United States Attorney David L. Huber
Western District of Kentucky

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2007
WWW.USDOJ.GOV/USAO/KYW

CONTACT: SANDY FOCKEN
PHONE: (502) 582-5911
FAX: (502) 582-5097

LOUISVILLE MAN INDICTED ON FEDERAL NARCOTICS AND FIREARMS CHARGES

– Indictment alleges possessing firearms in furtherance of cocaine trafficking

LOUISVILLE, KY - A federal grand jury in Louisville returned an indictment against **Margarito Gonzalez-Pena**, age 34, of Louisville, Kentucky, in Jefferson County, on charges of possession of over 500 grams of cocaine with the intent to distribute and possessing a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime, U.S. Attorney David L. Huber of the Western District of Kentucky, and Paul Vido, Special Agent in Charge of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), Louisville Field Division, jointly announced today.

The indictment alleges that on August 16, 2007, Gonzalez-Pena possessed over 500 grams of cocaine with the intent to distribute it. The indictment further charges Gonzalez-Pena with possessing a Smith & Wesson .357 caliber Revolver in furtherance of his drug trafficking activities. The cocaine has an approximate street value of \$84,000.

United States Attorney David L. Huber praised the efforts of the Louisville Metro Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives in their effective response to these very serious offenses.

In the event of a conviction, the maximum potential penalties are life imprisonment, a \$2,000,000 fine, and supervised release for a period of years; and the minimum potential

penalties are 5 years imprisonment, a \$2,000,000 fine, and supervised release for a period of 4 years.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Robert B. Bonar. The Louisville Field Office of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) conducted the investigation in partnership with Louisville Metro Police Department, as part of ATF's mandated mission to reduce violent crime and other threats to public safety.

This is a Project Backfire prosecution. Project Backfire is a cooperative effort by the Jefferson County Attorney's Office, the Jefferson County Commonwealth's Attorneys Office, the Louisville Metro Police Department, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, and the United States Attorney's Office to ensure that firearm offenses are prosecuted to the fullest extent of the state and federal law.

Gonzalez-Pena is scheduled to appear for arraignment before the United States Magistrate Judge on September 18, 2007, at 9:30 a.m., in Louisville, Kentucky.

An indictment of a person is an accusation only and that person is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.

###